



CHAPTER 2200 - TOBACCO SALES AND YOUTH ACCESS ORDINANCE

ORDINANCE NO. 15-01

(Originally enacted by Resolution # 00-86, and amended by Resolution 03-99 and Ordinance 14-01 passed May 6, 2014; Updated November 21, 2017; Updated April 2, 2019)

Table of Contents

Section 2201. Title	5
Section 2202. Purpose and Jurisdiction.....	5
2202.01 Purpose.....	5
2202.02 Authority	5
Section 2203. Definitions and Interpretations.	6
2203.01 Administrative Fee.	6
2203.02 Administrative Penalty	6
2203.03 Child Resistant Packaging.	6
2203.04 Compliance Checks.....	6
2203.05 County.	6
2203.06 County Board.....	6
2203.07 County Official.....	6
2203.08 Electronic Delivery Device.	6
2203.09 Individually Packaged.	7
2203.10 Licensed Products.	7
2203.11 Licensee.	7
2203.12 Loosies.	7
2203.13 Moveable Place of Business.....	7
2203.14 Nicotine or Lobelia Delivery Product.....	7
2203.15 Person.....	8
2203.16 Retail Establishment.	8
2203.17 Revocation.....	8
2203.18 Sale.	8
2203.19 Self-Service Merchandising.....	8
2203.20 Suspension.	8
2203.21 Tobacco Hearing Officer.....	8
2203.22 Tobacco Products.	8
2203.23 Tobacco Product Vending Machine.....	9
2203.24 Tobacco Product Vending Type Machine.....	9
2203.25 Tobacco Related Devices.	9
2203.26 Youth.	9
Section 2204. License.	9
2204.01 Application.	9
2204.02 Action.	9
2204.03 Term.	9
2204.04 Renewals.	10
2204.05 Issuance as Privilege and Not a Right.....	10
2204.06 Transfers.....	10
2204.07 Moveable Place of Business.....	10
2204.08 Display.	10
2204.09 Licensing Does Not Apply to Wholesalers.....	10
Section 2205. Administrative Fees for Licenses and Services.	10
2205.01 License Fees.....	10
2205.02 Administrative Fees	11
2205.03 Unpaid Fees Added to License Fees.....	11
2205.04 License Fee Refunds.	11

2205.05	Fee Modifications.....	11
2205.06	Fee Appeals.....	11
Section 2206. Basis for Eligibility, and for Denial of License.....		11
2206.01	Grounds for Denial of License.....	11
2206.02	License Issued in Error.....	12
2206.03	Appeal of Licensing Decisions.....	12
Section 2207. Prohibited Acts.....		12
2207.01	In general.....	12
2207.02	Free or Nominal Cost Distribution Prohibited.....	12
2207.03	Non-Child Resistant Packaging Prohibited.....	12
2207.04	Legal age.....	12
Section 2208. Self-Service Merchandising and Sales.....		13
2208.01	Controlled Access to Products and Devices.....	13
2208.02	Manner of Sales.....	13
2208.03	Exception to Manner of Sales.....	13
Section 2209. Responsibility.....		13
Section 2210. Sales-compliance checks.....		14
Section 2211. Violations.....		14
2211.01.	Enforcement of Violations and Appeals.....	14
2211.02	Appeals.....	14
2211.03	Continued Violation.....	14
Section 2212. Administrative Penalties.....		14
2212.01	Penalty Criteria.....	14
2212.02	Retail Establishment Employees.....	15
2212.03	Suspensions.....	15
2212.04	Revocations.....	15
2212.05	Removal of Products.....	15
2212.06	Notice.....	15
Section 2213. Defenses and Exceptions.....		15
2213.01	Affirmative Defenses for Certain Sales to Minors.....	15
2213.02	Affirmative Defenses for Approved Smoking Cessation Devices.....	16
Section 2214. Severability and Savings Clause.....		16
Section 2215. Effective Date.....		16

Whereas, commercial tobacco use is the foremost preventable cause of premature death in America. It causes half a million deaths annually and has been responsible for 20.8 million premature deaths in the U.S. over the past 50 years since the first Surgeon General's report on smoking in 1964.

Whereas, the United States Surgeon General finds: "Today, massive and conclusive scientific evidence documents adverse effects of involuntary smoking on children and adults, including cancer and cardiovascular diseases in adults, and adverse respiratory effects in both children and adults" and "exposure to secondhand smoke remains an alarming public health hazard" and "more than 126 million nonsmokers are still exposed;" and

Whereas, it is estimated that between 24,300 and 71,900 low birth-weight or pre-term deliveries, about 202,300 episodes of childhood asthma (new cases and exacerbations), between 150,000 and 300,000 cases of lower respiratory illness in children, and about 789,700 cases of middle ear infections in children occur in the United States each year as a result of exposure to secondhand smoke; and

Whereas, restricting smoking in public places and places of work can help to reduce youth exposure to secondhand smoke and to model smoke-free behavior; and

Whereas, public health policies, ordinances, and other laws are part of the system by which people learn behaviors, guide youth, reduce health threats, and reinforce community norms that support the public's health; and

Whereas, since the last version of this ordinance was adopted in 2017, new information reveals that youth use of commercial tobacco products has risen, largely due to e-cigarette use, reversing the downward trend of tobacco use by youth in Minnesota.

Whereas, numerous medical institutions and national health agencies, have concluded that nicotine is a potent, vasoconstrictor stimulant drug, and that high amounts of nicotine can be fatal, especially to young children; and

Whereas, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit has concluded in the case of Sottera, Inc. v. Food and Drug Administration, 627 F.3d 891 (D.C. Cir. 2010) that e-cigarettes should be regulated as tobacco products; and in 2016, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) extended its authority over e-cigarettes as meeting the definition of tobacco product; and

Whereas, the Commissioner of Health for the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) has stated there is no conclusive evidence that using e-cigarettes or inhaling the secondhand vapor they emit is safe and until we know more about the long-term health effects of e-cigarettes, we cannot be confident that they are safe for their intended use; and

Whereas, Olmsted County further recognizes that young people are particularly susceptible to the addictive properties of tobacco and nicotine products, and are particularly likely to become lifelong users; and

Whereas, an estimated 5.6 million youth currently aged 0-17 are projected to die prematurely from a tobacco-related illness if prevalence rates do not change; and

Whereas, national data show that about 95 percent of adult smokers begin smoking before they turn 21. The ages of 18-21 are a critical period when many smokers move from experimental smoking to regular, daily use; and

Whereas, the United States Surgeon General stated regarding e-cigarettes, "We must take aggressive steps to protect our children from these highly potent products that risk exposing a new generation of young people to nicotine...E-cigarette use has become an epidemic among our nation's young people.

The County Board of the County of Olmsted, Minnesota, Ordains:

Section 2201. Title.

This ordinance shall be known and referenced as the Olmsted County Tobacco Sales and Youth Access Ordinance.

Section 2202. Purpose and Jurisdiction.

2202.01 Purpose. Because the sale of commercial tobacco, tobacco products, and tobacco-related devices, electronic delivery devices, and nicotine or lobelia delivery products to persons under the age of 18 violate both state and federal law; and there exists substantial scientific evidence that the use of commercial tobacco products cause cancer, heart disease and various other medical disorders; and whereas the use of tobacco products commences primarily in adolescence; and the County desires to prevent young people from starting to use tobacco; this ordinance is intended to prohibit the illegal sales of tobacco, tobacco products, tobacco-related devices, nicotine or lobelia delivery products, and electronic delivery devices (commonly known as e-cigarettes) for the purpose of enforcing and furthering existing laws and to protect youth from the serious affects associated with the use of tobacco and other nicotine-related products.

2202.02 Authority. The Olmsted County Tobacco Sales and Youth Access Ordinance shall apply to all incorporated and unincorporated areas within Olmsted County that do not license and regulate retail sales of tobacco, tobacco-related devices, electronic delivery devices, and nicotine or lobelia delivery products in conformance with the minimum requirements of Chapter 461 of the Minnesota Statutes. Retail establishments licensed by a city or town are not required to obtain a second license for the same location under this ordinance.

Section 2203. Definitions and Interpretations.

All terms shall be given their commonly accepted definitions. The singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular. The masculine shall include the feminine and neuter, and vice-versa. The term "shall" means mandatory and the term "may" means permissive.

2203.01 Administrative Fee. "Administrative fee" shall mean the license and service fees that are assessed to individuals, as authorized by the ordinance. Administrative fees are not penalties assigned in a criminal court.

2203.02 Administrative Penalty. "Administrative penalty" shall mean the fees that are assessed to individuals for violation of the ordinance as authorized by the ordinance.

2203.03 Child Resistant Packaging. For purposes of this ordinance, "child-resistant packaging" is defined as set forth in Code of Federal Regulations, title 16, section 1700.15(b)(1), as in effect on January 1, 2015, when tested in accordance with the method described in Code of Federal Regulations, title 16, section 1700.20, as in effect on January 1, 2015.

2203.04 Compliance Checks. "Compliance Checks" shall mean the system the County uses to investigate and ensure that those authorized to sell licensed products are following and complying with the requirements of this Ordinance. Compliance checks shall also mean the use of persons under 21 who purchase or attempt to purchase licensed products. Compliance checks may also be conducted by the County or other units of government for educational, research and training purposes, or for investigating or enforcing federal, state, or local laws and regulations related to licensed products.

2203.05 County. "County" means the entire area within the perimeter boundaries of Olmsted County, Minnesota and/or the staff or other officials serving under the authority of the County Board.

2203.06 County Board. "County Board" means the Olmsted County Board of Commissioners duly elected by and currently serving the citizens of Olmsted County, Minnesota.

2203.07 County Official. "County Official" shall mean the person or persons authorized by the administrator of the department assigned by the County Board to implement this ordinance.

2203.08 Electronic Delivery Device. "Electronic Delivery Device" shall mean any product containing or delivering nicotine, lobelia, or any other substance whether natural or synthetic, intended for human consumption through the inhalation of aerosol or vapor from the product, an activity commonly known as "vaping". Electronic delivery devices include but are not limited to devices manufactured, marketed, or sold

as e-cigarettes, e-cigars, e-pipes, vape pens, mods, tank systems, or any other product name or descriptor. Electronic delivery device shall include any component part of such a product whether or not marketed or sold separately. Electronic delivery device shall not include any product that has been approved or otherwise certified by the United States Food and Drug Administration for legal sales for use in tobacco cessation treatment or for other medical purposes, and is being marketed and sold solely for that approved purpose.

2203.09 Individually Packaged. “Individually packaged” shall mean the practice of selling any licensed product wrapped individually for sale. Individually wrapped licensed products shall include, but are not limited to, single cigarette packs, single bags or cans of loose tobacco in any form, and single cans or other packaging of snuff or chewing tobacco. Cartons or other packaging containing more than a single pack or other container as described in this definition shall not be considered individually wrapped.

2203.10 Licensed Products. “Licensed products” shall mean the term that collectively refers to any tobacco, tobacco-related device, electronic delivery device, or nicotine or lobelia delivery product.

2203.11 Licensee. “Licensee” shall mean the person and the retail establishment where tobacco products or electronic delivery devices are made available for sale to the public.

2203.12 Loosies. “Loosies” shall mean the common term used to refer to a single or individually packaged cigars or cigarette or any other licensed product that has been removed from its intended retail packaging and offered for sale. The term “loosies” does not include individual cigars with a retail price, before any sales taxes, of more than \$4.00 per cigar.

2203.13 Moveable Place of Business. “Moveable Place of Business” shall refer to any retail business whose physical location is not permanent, including, but not limited to, any retail business that is operated from a kiosk, other transportable structure, or a motorized or nonmotorized vehicle.

2203.14 Nicotine or Lobelia Delivery Product. “Nicotine or Lobelia Delivery Product” shall mean any product containing or delivering nicotine or lobelia intended for human consumption, or any part of such a product, that is not a tobacco or an electronic delivery device as defined in this section. Nicotine or Lobelia Delivery Product does not include any product that has been approved or otherwise certified for legal sale by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration as a tobacco-cessation product, a tobacco-dependence product, or for other medical purposes, and is being marketed and sold solely for that approved purpose.

2203.15 Person. "Person" shall mean any individual, business, public or private corporation, partnership, joint venture, association, trust, unincorporated association, or government or any agency or political subdivision thereof; and any receiver, trustee, assignee, agent or other legal representative of any of the foregoing.

2203.16 Retail Establishment. "Retail Establishment" shall mean any place of business where licensed products are available for sale to the general public at retail. Retail establishments shall include, but not be limited to tobacco shops, grocery stores, service stations, convenience stores, drug stores, restaurants and taverns.

2203.17 Revocation. "Revocation" shall mean the termination of the tobacco product sales license and its privileges.

2203.18 Sale. A "sale" shall mean any transfer of goods for money, trade, barter, or other consideration.

2203.19 Self-Service Merchandising. "Self-Service Merchandising" shall mean open displays of licensed products in any manner where any person shall have access to the licensed products without the assistance or intervention of the licensee or the licensee's employee. The assistance or intervention shall entail the actual physical exchange of the licensed product between the customer and the licensee or employee.

2203.20 Suspension. "Suspension" shall mean the temporary loss of the privilege to sell tobacco products with reinstatement of the privileges allowed according to action of the County Official.

2203.21 Tobacco Hearing Officer. The "Tobacco Hearing Officer" shall be the individual appointed by the County Board to conduct hearings pursuant to Minnesota Statute Chapter 461.12.

2203.22 Tobacco Products. "Tobacco products" shall mean any products containing, made, or derived from tobacco that is intended for human consumption, whether chewed, smoked, absorbed, dissolved, inhaled, snorted, sniffed, or ingested by any other means, or any component, part, or accessory of a tobacco product, including but not limited to, any substance or item containing tobacco leaf, cigarettes; cigars; pipe tobacco; snuff; fine cut or other chewing tobacco; cheroots; stogies; perique; granulated, plug cut, crimp cut, ready-rubbed, and other smoking tobacco; snuff flowers; Cavendish; shorts; plug and twist tobaccos; dipping tobaccos; refuse scraps, clippings, cuttings, and sweepings of tobacco. Tobacco products excludes any tobacco product that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for sale as a tobacco cessation product, as a tobacco dependence product, or for other medical purposes, and is being marketed and sold solely for such an approved purpose.

2203.23 Tobacco Product Vending Machine. "Tobacco Product Vending Machine" shall mean any mechanical, electric, electronic, or other type of device that dispenses licensed products upon the insertion of money, tokens, or other form of payment directly into the machine by the person seeking to purchase the licensed products.

2203.24 Tobacco Product Vending Type Machine. "Tobacco Product Vending Type Machine" shall mean a licensed product vending machine, as defined in this ordinance that is equipped with a remote control switch that is activated by the licensee to dispense the licensed product.

2203.25 Tobacco Related Devices. "Tobacco-Related Devices" shall mean any pipe, rolling papers, wraps or other device intentionally designed or intended to be used with tobacco products. Tobacco-related devices includes components of tobacco-related devices or tobacco products, which may be marketed or sold separately. Tobacco-related devices may or may not contain tobacco.

2203.26 Youth. For the purposes of this ordinance only, "Youth" shall mean any person who has not yet reached the age of twenty-one (21) years.

Section 2204. License.

No retail establishment shall sell or offer to sell any licensed product without first having obtained a license to do so from the County.

2204.01 Application. An application for a license to sell licensed products shall be made on a form provided by the County. The application shall contain the full name of the applicant, the applicant's residential and business addresses, telephone numbers, the name of the business for which the license is sought, and any additional information the County deems necessary.

2204.02 Action. The County Official may approve or deny the application for a license or delay license action, for a reasonable period of time, to complete any investigation of the application or the applicant deemed necessary. Investigation may include, but is not limited to, a background check. If the County Official determines that an application is incomplete, the Official shall return the application to the applicant with notice of the information necessary to complete the application. When the Official determines that the license application can be approved, the official shall issue the license to the applicant. If the Official denies the license, notice of the denial shall be given to the applicant along with notice of the applicant's rights and the appeal process.

2204.03 Term. All licenses shall be valid for twelve months from the date of issuance. The license shall terminate upon the anniversary date. The length of license time may be modified from time-to-time by resolution of the County Board.

2204.04 Renewals. The renewal of a license shall be handled in the same manner as the original application. The applicant's request for a renewal shall be made at least thirty days but no more than sixty days before the expiration of the current license. The issuance of a license shall be considered a privilege and not an absolute right of the applicant and shall not entitle the holder to an automatic renewal of the license.

2204.05 Issuance as Privilege and Not a Right. The issuance of a license shall be considered a privilege and not an absolute right of the applicant and shall not entitle the holder to an automatic renewal of the license.

2204.06 Transfers. All licenses shall be valid only on the premises for which the license was issued and only for the person to whom the license was issued. No transfer of the license to another location or person shall be allowed.

2204.07 Moveable Place of Business. No license shall be issued to a moveable place of business. Mall kiosks are considered to be moveable places of businesses. Only fixed-location businesses shall be eligible to be licensed.

2204.08 Display. All licenses shall be posted and displayed on the licensed premise in plain view of the general public and shall be exhibited to any person upon request. The license shall include a statement to the effect of, "By law, all persons under the age of 30 years must present identification to purchase tobacco products, tobacco related devices or electronic delivery devices, or nicotine or lobelia delivery products."

2204.09 Licensing Does Not Apply to Wholesalers. The licensing requirements of this section shall not apply to wholesaler's activity of selling licensed products to retail establishments.

Section 2205. Administrative Fees for Licenses and Services.

2205.01 License Fees. No license shall be issued under this ordinance until the appropriate license fees are paid in full. The following types of license fees shall be established by resolution of the County Board:

- a. Base fee for each retail establishment where licensed products sales will occur.
- b. Fee for each register within the retail establishment used to process and record each licensed product sales transaction
- c. Fee for each tobacco product or electronic delivery devices vending machine. This includes, but is not limited to, those vending machines equipped with a remote control switch, which must be activated by a retail clerk for each tobacco product or electronic delivery device sale transaction:

2205.02 Administrative Fees. Administrative fees intended to recover service costs incurred by the County, will be set by Resolution of the County Board.

2205.03 Unpaid Fees Added to License Fees. Administrative fees, applied during the license term that have not been paid in full, shall be added to and become part of the license renewal fee.

2205.04 License Fee Refunds. A license fee refund for business termination may be authorized. Any refund amount will be according to the schedule set by Resolution of the County Board.

2205.05 Fee Modifications. Any of the fees for the categories in this section may be modified, from time to time, by Resolution of the County Board.

2205.06 Fee Appeals. Administration of, or appeals to Sections 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, and 2206 of this ordinance shall be according to the provisions of the Olmsted County Administrative Enforcement and Appeals Ordinance found at Chapter 4000 of the Olmsted County Code of Ordinances.

Section 2206. Basis for Eligibility, and for Denial of License.

2206.01 Grounds for Denial of License. No retail license, or license renewal, shall be issued to a person:

- a. Under the age of 18.
- b. Convicted of a criminal violation of Federal or State law (misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor or felony), or any local government ordinance or regulation relating to tobacco products, tobacco related devices or electronic delivery devices.
- c. Currently under terms of a suspension or revocation of a license to sell tobacco products, tobacco related devices or electronic delivery devices.
- d. Who has failed to pay the appropriate licensing, service and/or administration fees.
- e. Fails to provide any information required by the application or County Official, or provides false or misleading information.
- f. Prohibited by Federal, State, or other local law, ordinance, or other regulation, from holding such a license.
- g. Who fails to display or present tobacco products, tobacco related devices or electronic delivery devices in a manner that is consistent with Federal regulation, State law or this ordinance.

2206.02 License Issued in Error. If it is discovered that a license was mistakenly issued or renewed to an ineligible person, the license shall be revoked by the County Official.

2206.03 Appeal of Licensing Decisions. Decisions made by the County Official, under the authority of Sections 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, and 2206, may be appealed as provided in the Olmsted County Administrative Enforcement and Appeals Procedure Ordinance found at Chapter 4000 of the Olmsted County Code of Ordinances.

Section 2207. Prohibited Acts

2207.01 In general. No person shall sell or offer to sell any licensed product:

- a. By means of any self-service tobacco product vending machine.
- b. By means of loosies as defined.
- c. Containing opium, morphine, jimson weed, bella donna, strychnos, cocaine, marijuana, or other deleterious, hallucinogenic, toxic, or controlled substances except nicotine and other substances found naturally in tobacco or added as part of an otherwise lawful manufacturing process. It is not the intention of this provision to ban the sale of lawfully manufactured cigarettes or other products subject to this ordinance.
- d. By any other means, to any other person, on in any other manner or form prohibited by federal, state or other local law, ordinance provision, or other regulation.

2207.02 Free or Nominal Cost Distribution Prohibited. No person shall distribute licensed products free of charge or at a nominal cost.

2207.03 Non-Child Resistant Packaging Prohibited. No person shall sell or offer to sell any liquid (whether or not it contains nicotine) that is intended for human consumption and use in an electronic delivery device unless it is in packaging that was designed and tested to be child-resistant as required by *Minn. Stat. § 461.20; 16 C.F.R. 1700.15(b)(1)*. Upon request by the county, a licensee must provide a copy of the certificate of compliance or full laboratory testing report for the packaging used.

2207.04 Legal age. No person shall sell any licensed product to any person under the age of 21.

- a. Age verification. Licensees must verify by means of government-issued photographic identification that the purchaser is at least 21 years of age. Verification is not required for a person over the age of 30. That the person appeared to be 30 years of age or older does not constitute a defense to a violation of this subsection.

b. Signage. Notice of the legal sales age and age verification requirement must be posted prominently and in plain view at all times at each location where licensed products are offered for sale. The required signage, which will be provided to the licensee by the county, must be posted in a manner that is clearly visible to anyone who is or is considering making a purchase.

Section 2208. Self-Service Merchandising and Sales.

2208.01 Controlled Access to Products and Devices. All tobacco products, tobacco related devices or electronic delivery devices, offered for sale, shall either be a) stored in an area or container that may be visible but is not accessible to customers, or b) in a vending type machine located where the licensee shall check the identity of the patron and watch the patron purchase. Also, the sale of any liquid, whether or not such liquid contains nicotine, that is intended for human consumption and use in an electronic delivery device, as defined in Section 2203.08, that is not contained in packaging that is child-resistant, is prohibited. All licensees under this chapter must ensure that any liquid intended for human consumption and use in an electronic delivery device is sold in child-resistant packaging.

2208.02 Manner of Sales. A licensee shall only allow merchandising and/or sales of tobacco products, tobacco related devices or electronic delivery devices by a) a physical exchange of the tobacco product, tobacco related device or electronic delivery device between the licensee or the licensee's employees and the customer, or b) a vending-type machine equipped with a switch that dispenses the product only when the licensee causes the switch to be briefly activated for each individual sale.

2208.03 Exception to Manner of Sales. The self-service merchandising restrictions shall not apply to retail establishments which have an entrance door opening directly to the outside, and the operator actively prohibits youth from entering the licensed establishment at all times, and where 90% or more of the retail establishment's revenue is derived from tobacco product sales, as provided in Minnesota Statute Chapter 461.18.

Section 2209. Responsibility.

The sale of tobacco products, tobacco related devices and electronic delivery devices by retail establishments to minors is prohibited by Minnesota Statutes Sections 609.685 and 609.6855. All licensees shall be responsible for the sale of tobacco products, tobacco related devices or electronic delivery devices by an employee or from a Tobacco Product /Electronic Delivery Devices Vending Type Machine. Such a sale shall be considered a sale by the license holder. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the County Official from subjecting the licensee and/or employee to appropriate administrative fees under this ordinance, or court imposed penalties according to other provisions of this ordinance, State or Federal law, or other applicable law or regulation.

Section 2210. Sales-compliance checks.

Sales-compliance checks, as defined in Minnesota Statute Chapter 461, shall be performed under direction of the County Official for the purpose of testing compliance with Minnesota Statute §609.685, and§ 609.6855 as amended from time-to-time, and for testing compliance with this ordinance.

Section 2211. Violations.

2211.01. Enforcement of Violations and Appeals. Except as otherwise provided by Minnesota law, the procedures which must be followed in the event a) an exception to any provision of this ordinance or the appeal of a denial of a request for an exception is sought where no process for an exception has been spelled out in this ordinance, b) a civil notice of violation of any provision of this ordinance occurs, or c) an appeal of a civil notice of violation or of the suspension or revocation of a tobacco sales license is sought shall be governed by the Olmsted County Administrative Enforcement and Appeals Procedure Ordinance set forth in Chapter 4000 of the Olmsted County Code of Ordinances.

2211.02 Appeals. Appeals of any decision made by the Hearing Officer pursuant to the procedures in the County’s Administrative Enforcement and Appeals Procedure Ordinance shall be made pursuant to Minnesota Statute Chapter 461.12 subd. 7, as amended from time-to-time.

2211.03 Continued Violation. Each violation, and every day in which a violation occurs or continues, shall constitute a separate offense.

Section 2212. Administrative Penalties.

2212.01 Penalty Criteria.

a. Administrative penalties for sales-compliance checks shall be defined and administered as provided in Minnesota Statute Chapter 461 as amended from time-to-time and according to Section 2211.02. The licensee shall also reimburse the tobacco product, tobacco related device or electronic delivery device retail sales price in excess of 5 (five) dollars back to the County at the time the Administrative Penalty Fee is paid.

b. Administrative penalties for violations other than sales-compliance checks shall be set by Resolution of the County Board.

c. Administrative actions and associated penalties are no bar to the initiation of court action or court ordered penalties authorized by this or other applicable regulation, ordinance, State or Federal law.

2212.02 Retail Establishment Employees. Any retail establishment employee found to have violated this ordinance shall be required to participate in "Tobacco Sales and Youth Access Training" that is accepted by the County Official. This training shall not be a substitute for an administrative penalty fee authorized by Minnesota Law.

2212.03 Suspensions. Upon the third offense within a 24-month period, the license shall be suspended by the County's Hearing Officer, as provided in Minnesota Statutes Chapter 461, as amended from time-to-time or by the County Official if the licensee has not chosen to contest the notice of license violation through the process set forth in the Olmsted County Administrative Enforcement and Appeals Procedure Ordinance.

2212.04 Revocations. The license may only be revoked according to procedures provided in the Olmsted County Administrative Enforcement and Appeals Ordinance or by the County Official if the licensee has not chosen to contest the notice of license violation through the process set forth in the Olmsted County Administrative Enforcement and Appeals Procedure Ordinance.

2212.05 Removal of Products. The licensee shall remove all tobacco products, tobacco related devices and electronic delivery devices from the point of sale area, keeping them out of public view and access (on or off the premises), during the entire suspension or revocation period.

2212.06 Notice. Administrative penalties, suspensions or revocations shall take effect after the alleged violator, licensee, or other responsible manager(s) have received notice of a) the alleged violation, and b) the process for requesting and obtaining a hearing to appeal their case before the County's Hearing Officer. Such notice may be served personally or by mail.

Section 2213. Defenses and Exceptions.

2213.01 Affirmative Defenses for Certain Sales to Minors. It shall be an affirmative defense for a person alleged to have sold a tobacco product, tobacco related device or electronic delivery device to a minor when they can demonstrate they reasonably relied on proof of age as provided in Minnesota Statue §340A.503, as amended from time-to-time.

2213.02 Affirmative Defenses for Approved Smoking Cessation

Devices. It shall be an affirmative defense for a person alleged to have sold to a minor 1) a tobacco product or electronic delivery device or 2) a product containing or delivering nicotine or lobelia intended for human consumption, or 3) any part of such a product, that is not tobacco as defined by section 609.685, if the product has been approved or otherwise certified for legal sale by the United States Food and Drug Administration for tobacco use cessation, harm reduction, or for other medical purposes, and is being marketed and sold solely for that approved purpose.

Section 2214. Severability and Savings Clause.

If any section or portion of this ordinance shall be found unconstitutional or otherwise invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, that finding shall not serve as an invalidation or affect the validity and enforceability of any other section or provision of this ordinance.

Section 2215. Effective Date.

The changes to this ordinance shall take effect July 1, 2019.

Passed and approved this 2nd day April 2019 by the County of Olmsted

DocuSigned by:
Jim Bier
642668517269478
Jim Bier, Chairperson
Board of Commissioners

Attest: DocuSigned by:
Lisa Morris Helmstetler
F2D519A66DB1430...
Lisa Morris-Helmstetler
Deputy Clerk of the County Board

CONTACT COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR CURRENT LICENSE, PERMIT, & SERVICE FEES SCHEDULE